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Chief, Finance Division

20 OCT 1953

Deputy Director of Security

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1. Reference is made to your Memorandum, dated 13 August 1953, with attachments requesting the comments of the Security Office regarding the contacting of the Department of Defense for the purpose of withholding from Major [redacted] pay, the amount of \$450.12, stated to be due to the agency from him as a result of discrepancies in his accountings while he was employed as Service and Supply Officer at Project [redacted] for the EE Division - DD/P, from 1 April to 31 December 1951.

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2. Our review of the material submitted in this case indicates insufficient evidence to expect any outside agency to support our claim against Major [redacted]. It is doubtful whether the Department of Defense would enforce payment merely on our statement, rather, it would, undoubtedly, obtain Major [redacted]'s answer to our charges, and probably then ask our explanation of the points which he would raise. The agency would then be in a position with having to explain to another department an unfavorable story of our operation of a project.

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3. The file submitted indicates carelessness, and perhaps incompetence, on the part of Major [redacted] in the performance of his duties, but it further indicates laxness on the part of his superiors in not requiring him to maintain adequate records. It is noted that Station Memorandum #4.006, included in Tab B, fixes the responsibility for the physical safekeeping and proper disbursement and accounting for funds at a Field Station on the Chief of Station. It further is noted that apparently no audit of Major [redacted] accounts has been made, but rather that the claim against him is based solely on the figures and accountings he, himself, has submitted. Further, laxness on the part of the agency is indicated by the failure to make the claims against him until considerable time after he had left the agency. When a claim was

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filed against him, it was not done directly, but rather through his Army superiors. As a result, Major [] might have proper cause for a complaint that such action improperly damaged his reputation, as well as his military career.

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4. Since the accountings, vouchers, and other supporting documents submitted by Major [] have not yet been audited, it is recommended that this case be referred to the Office of the Auditor-in-Chief for a thorough audit. The Security Office will be pleased to arrange a personal contact with Subject to discuss this matter with him if the findings of the Auditor-in-Chief's Office warrant such action.

5. In accordance with your request, your file on this case is being returned.

[]

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Att: Tabs A to and
including L.

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